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***GOVERNOR CALLS ON FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO BACK UP 9/11  
RECOMMENDATIONS WITH FUNDING AND ACTION  
Napolitano testimony before U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security***

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Governor Janet Napolitano today told the U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs that the 9/11 Commission’s recommendations and other federal plans to enhance protection, preparedness, response and recovery capabilities must be accompanied by adequate funding and realistic plans.

“9/11 was a pivotal date and we must sustain the momentum and resolve what began that day,” Governor Napolitano said. “Even the boldest proposals and strategies amount to nothing unless they include clear deadlines, detailed lines of responsibility and sufficient funding,”

She emphasized that the federal government must take seriously its responsibility to regain operational control of the border. The Governor once again called on Congress – just as she did in testimony to the U.S House Committee on Homeland Security in October 2005 – to prevent a potential disaster by securing the Arizona-Mexico international border. She said, “The federal government must secure the international border. Anything less is inadequate and a failure.”

Governor Napolitano discussed Arizona’s success in filling the security gap that has resulted from the loss of federal operational control of the U.S-Mexico border, but made clear that these measures, including releasing \$1.5 million in state funds to increase local law enforcement patrols along the border, are not a substitute for the federal solution to the border crisis. “To focus on these actions is to focus on temporary fixes, stopgap measures powered primarily by state and local efforts,” Napolitano said.

The Governor described the lack of transparency in the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s future state funding plans “frustrating.” She recommended that DHS develop a multi-year grant program to provide states with a sense of future funding, commenting that: “It’s impossible to plan a comprehensive and realistic state homeland security strategy without a clear understanding of funding beyond the current year.”

Arizona and states across the nation have experienced significant cuts in federal homeland security funding over the past few years. Arizona’s funding has been cut by fifty percent in the last year, and by two-thirds since 2004.

Additionally, Governor Napolitano raised concerns about the availability of the National Guard to step in during emergencies and disasters in the United State when the number of Guard troops being deployed overseas, as well as the lengths of their deployments, continues to increase. She called on Congress to “make sure that the National Guard is adequately equipped to serve its important missions at home.”

The Governor’s testimony was submitted in writing. A copy of the Governor’s testimony is attached.